

Date: 5/28/2021 6:31:41 AM

"FDOC and THE HIGH VACANCY RATE"

I was speaking with an officer today about the issues with the FDOC. We were specifically talking about two officer's that just walked off the job last week here at UCI who said, " I've had enough of this!" And these were two really good officer's! They treated other staff and inmates with respect. These were two officer's that the FDOC should not want to lose!!! They followed the rules! They were men of honor! Men of integrity!! But they just had enough of this administration treating them as if they weren't important. In fact it was one of these officer's, who I was speaking about in one of my other writings last month. He was standing in front of my cell as I was getting my food tray, and you could see it in his eyes and face, that he was mentally and physically exhausted!!! I seen this in this young man. And if I could see it, then the administration should have seen it. They could have possibly prevented him from walking off the job. Well the officer that I'm talking with, about these two officer's quitting tells me that he's considering leaving next week. He says, Man I'm tired! Due to HVC( High Vacancy Rate) their making me come in on my days off. I can never leave on time. They require me to come in on the weekends and work when I'm suppose to be off. I told that officer, " Look if your going to walk out of here, why don't you get with these other officer's contact the Florida Legislature and get them to have a special session where y'all can go in and testify to why your quitting. Let them know what kind of problems your having." He stood there thinking about it a minute. And shook his head in agreement. But I seen the same thing in his face, that I seen in the other officer's face who walked off " EXHAUSTION". And if I don't see this officer ever again it will not surprise me. Now you may ask why I'm fighting and speaking up on behalf of these officer's, well several reason's. One of them is selfish. I need these officer's here to make sure the programs recreation, canteen, visits etc are functioning. But also we're losing good officer's! Men who are decent human beings and that are trying to support their family and make a living out of this. And someone's got to do the job. Right now UCI is operating on a skeleton crew. Death row which is suppose to be one of the highest levels of security in the state of Florida is operating with staff member's who are barely here!!! They look like zombies!! You can see their not getting enough sleep! You can see their not mentally fit to be here!! But do to the HVC the administration is running what staff they have left into the ground!! Which is causing more staff to vacate the premises, creating a higher HVC!! What needs to happen is our Governor needs to bring in the National Guard to help fill the vacancy rate until the FDOC can get this under control. For as another officer told me last week, " WE ARE HEMORRHAGING RIGHT NOW!!!! " And I've been sitting here thinking about this as I continue to witness this debacle that's taking place before my eyes, and the only real solution is to bring in the National Guard to give these officer's relief until this situation has been corrected. Other wise their going to continue to hemorrhage losing more and more good officer's. Yes what a mess they have made of this!!

Sincerely Ronald W. Clark Jr. #812974

May 28,2021